

Message Text

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52

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 RSR-01 RSC-01

SCA-01 JUSE-00 FBIE-00 /032 W

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6422

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CPRS, NO

SUBJECT: EXTRADITION - CONSTANTINOS ANASTASIOUS SYNGRASSIDES

REF: (A) GERMAN/ HUMMER TELECON 3/15/73 (B) OSLO 1026

(C) OSLO 994

1. TO CONFIRM YESTERDAY' S TELECON (REF A), WE RECOMMEND THAT JUSTICE CONSIDER SENDING TO OSLO NEXT WEEK AN ATTORNEY FAMILIAR WITH THE SYNGRASSIDES CASE AND WITH EXTRADITION LAW.

2. IT IS NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT THE NORWEGIAN COURT WILL RULE AGAINST US. SYNAGRASSIDES HAS A SKILLFUL ATTORNEY WHO IS RAISING SERIOUS QUESTIONS RELATING TO US JURISDICTION OVER THE CASE AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE US- NORWEGIAN EXTRADITION TREATY TO THE OFFENSES CHARGED. WE ARE SOMEWHAT SURPRISED THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS DISINCLINED TO AUTHORIZE TRANSLATION OF THE ARGUMENTS THE DEFENSE HAS SUBMITTED TO THE COURT.

3. REF B TRANSMITS THE PORTION OF THE DEFENSE BRIEF CONCERNING WHICH THE NORWEGIAN POLICE PROSECUTOR, WITH WHOM RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESENTING THE US CASE RESTS, HAS ASKED FOR HELP. AN AFFIDAVIT MAY SUFFICE ON THIS PARTICULAR POINT, AS SUGGESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN YESTERDAY' S TELECON. WE SHOULD HAVE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ANY SUCH AFFIDAVIT OR SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT BE CABLED TO US IF IT IS TO HAVE ANY UTILITY FOR THE MARCH

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23-26 HEARING. RECENT UNCLASSIFIED AIRGRAMS ON THIS CASE HAVE BEEN TEN TO TWELVE DAYS IN TRANSIT; TRANSLATION WILL REQUIRE A DAY OR SO AFTER RECEIPT.

4. PREPARATION OF THIS CASE FOR TRIAL HAS OBVIOUSLY ENTAILED MANY MAN- YEARS OF EFFORT AND CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE. IT WOULD BE REGRETTABLE IF SYNGRASSIDES WERE NOW FREED BECAUSE OF THE INABILITY OF THE PROSECUTOR TO COPE SUCCESSFULLY WITH LAST-MINUTE ISSUES RAISED BY THE DEFENSE. HE IS CONSCIENTIOUS BUT OVER- WORKED; HE THINKS THE JUDGE IS THE " RIGHT KIND." NEVERTHELESS, IT WOULD SEEM WORTH THE COMPARATIVELY SLIGHT EXTRA COST, THIS NEAR THE END OF THE LINE, TO HAVE A US EXPERT ON HAND.

DECON 12/31/74

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OSLO001040
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730332/aaaahzqk.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 OSLO 994
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <19-Sep-2001 by martinml, PRIVACY>; WITHDRAWN <19-Sep-2001 by martinml, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <02-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <02-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971215
Subject: EXTRADITION - CONSTANTINOS ANASTASIOUS SYNGRASSIDES
TAGS: CPRS, NO
To: L
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005